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Newburn Urban District Council
(County of Northumberland)

ANNUAL
REPORT

of
Medical Officer of Health
and
Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year 1950



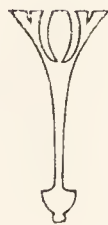
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(County of Northumberland)

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For the Year 1950



Health Committee Members

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Senior Sanitary Inspector :

JOHN CORNEY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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JOHN HATTON, A.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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Mrs. L. PIGG

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

For the Year ended December 31st, 1950

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Newburn Urban District Council.*

MADAM CHAIRMAN, LADY AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report upon the Vital Statistics and Sanitary Work of your district for the year ended December 31st, 1950.

VITAL STATISTICS

POPULATION.

There was an increase of 180 in the Registrar General's estimate of the total population, from 21,540 in 1949 to 21,720 in 1950.

BIRTH RATE.

The birth rate per 1,000 of the population showed a decline, being 17·9 in 1950 and 18·11 in 1949. There were the same number of births in 1949 as in 1950, i.e., 390. The rate for England and Wales was 15·8 in 1950.

The still birth rate showed a decrease from 0·42 per 1,000 population in 1949 to 0·35 in 1950. There were 9 still births in 1949 and 8 in 1950.

There were 14 illegitimate births in 1950, compared with 10 in 1949.

GENERAL DEATH RATE.

This rate showed a slight increase from 11·32 per 1,000 of the population in 1949 to 12·9 in 1950. There were 282 deaths in 1950 compared with 244 in 1949. The rates for England and Wales were 11·7 for 1949 and 11·6 in 1950.

NATURAL INCREASE OF THE POPULATION.

The number of births in excess of deaths in 1950 was 108, and in 1949 it was 146.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.

The death rate of all infants under one year of age per 1,000 live births was 48·7. This figure showed a decided increase from that of 1949, which was 30·8.

In both the years 1948 and 1949 the rate in the Urban District was slightly below that of the country generally. In 1950 it was, unfortunately, well above the general infantile mortality rate for England and Wales.

There were 19 deaths of infants under one year of age in 1950, compared with 12 deaths in 1949 and the same number in 1948. Of these 19 deaths, 13 were neo-natal deaths (i.e., occurred during the first month of life). In 1949 there were 10 neo-natal deaths. The causes of the 13 neo-natal deaths in 1950 were :—

- 5 from prematurity as a primary cause, and
- 2 with prematurity as a contributing factor ;
- 3 from cranial hæmorrhage ;
- 2 from congenital malformations ;
- 1 from broncho-pneumonia.

It will thus be seen that the “hard core” of the neo-natal deaths still remains.

Of the six infant deaths in the later months of the first year of life, two were primarily due to broncho-pneumonia and one to gastro-enteritis, two to gastro-enteritis with prematurity as a contributing factor, and one “accidental.”

The use of the sulphonamide drugs and antibiotics has materially decreased deaths from broncho-pneumonia and gastro-enteritis. In 1950, the deaths of premature twins were included in the number of nine deaths occurring during the first year of life, with “prematurity” as the primary cause in five cases and a contributing factor in four.

MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were no maternal deaths registered in 1950 as in 1949. The figure for England and Wales in 1950 was 0·86 per 1,000 total (live and still) births.

INDIVIDUAL CAUSES OF DEATH.

Heart and circulatory diseases continued to head this list. The number of deaths was 97 in 1950, giving a decrease of 12 as compared with 1949.

There was a decided decrease in deaths from respiratory diseases (other than tuberculosis) to 26 in 1950 from 39 in 1949. The decrease was most noticeable in the number of cases of bronchitis, there being 23 in 1949 from this cause and 14 in 1950. Deaths from influenza numbered five in 1950 and four in 1949.

Deaths from malignant disease increased to 45 in 1950 from 33 in 1949 and 43 in 1948.

“Malignant neoplasm of the lungs and bronchi” is separately classified in 1950. There were six deaths classified as from this cause—all male. Deaths from “malignant neoplasm of the stomach” increased by five in 1950 and that of “the breast” by six. There were no deaths from “ulcer of the stomach and duodenum,” compared with five in 1949 and one in 1948.

As in 1949, two deaths from “motor vehicle accidents” occurred. Eight deaths were classified as due to “accidents” and three in both 1950 and 1949 as “suicide.”

TUBERCULOSIS.

The mortality rate for the pulmonary and non-pulmonary forms of the disease was 0·46 per 1,000 population in 1950 as in 1949, there being 10 deaths (nine pulmonary and one non-pulmonary) in both years. The rate for England and Wales was 0·36 in 1950 and 0·45 in 1949. This rate has gradually declined in the last 10 years.

The number of primary notifications during 1950 was 41, compared with 40 in 1949, 33 in 1948, and 41 in 1947.

Primary notifications of the pulmonary form of the disease increased by seven in 1950 and notifications of the non-pulmonary form of the disease decreased by six.

There was an increase of two in the primary notifications of pulmonary tuberculosis in males aged 15 to 25 years; two in males 35 to 45 years; and three in females aged 25 to 35 years.

The decrease in the incidence of non-pulmonary tuberculosis is very welcome and reflects credit on the control of tuberculosis in bovines and of the milk supply, but the rise in the incidence of pulmonary tuberculosis in young adults stresses the need for early sanatorium treatment, segregation of infective cases, adequate housing conditions, and preventive and hygienic measures for other members of the family at risk of infection.

MASS RADIOGRAPHY.

The Mass Radiography Unit was based at the Adult School, Lemington, from the 2nd to the 12th October, 1950. This was the first time that the Unit operated in the Urban District, although attempts had been made in previous years to arrange a visit. Difficulty had been found in procuring suitable accommodation.

A total of 1,135 people attended the Unit, 522 males and 613 females. This included members of the general public from different parts of the district, employees at the Lemington Glass Works, doctors' and clinic patients, and schoolchildren over 14 years of age.

As regards the males, a total of 44, or 8·5 per cent., were recalled for large films and of those, seven were referred to the dispensary and six kept under observation by the Unit, making a total of 13, or 2·5 per cent., for those referred for further observation and treatment.

A total of 32, or 5·2 per cent., of the females were recalled for large films and of these, one was referred to the dispensary and four kept under observation by the Unit, making a total of five, or 0·8 per cent., for those referred for further observation and treatment.

Altogether 76 people (a percentage of 6·79) were recalled for large films and 18 people or 1·6 per cent. referred to the dispensary or kept under observation by the Unit. Six people were found to have active tuberculosis and 11 people to have healed or inactive tuberculosis.

A notable feature was the relatively large number of men referred to the dispensary, i.e., seven men compared with one woman.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES— PREVALENCE AND CONTROL.

The total number of infectious diseases notified during the year was 378, compared with 349 in 1949.

The incidence of scarlet fever declined considerably, there being 19 cases in 1950, compared with 39 in 1949. The disease was uniformly of a mild type, and no case required hospital treatment.

The number of cases of whooping cough increased to 68 in 1950 from 44 in 1949 and 171 in 1948.

Measles showed a slight decline to 195 cases in 1950, compared with 215 in 1949, and 300 in 1948.

For the second year in succession there were no cases of diphtheria notified. The table in the statistical section of the report is of great interest as it shows the decrease in the incidence and deaths from diphtheria as the number of immunised children has increased.

Three cases of poliomyelitis were notified, one in August and two in September. All cases showed signs of slight paralysis but were fortunately of a mild type.

Sonne dysentery was very prevalent in various parts of the country and in some neighbouring authorities during 1950. In all, 23 cases were notified in the Urban District in 1950, compared with three in 1949. Three cases of Sonne dysentery were notified in December, 1949. From December to May, 1950, there were 21 proved cases of the disease occurring in single households in various parts of the district.

There were 76 direct contacts of these cases, of whom 10 were found to be positive excretors, although no clinical signs of the disease appeared. Taken on an average, these positive excretors cleared up with treatment in 11 days, whereas in persons showing clinical symptoms, the average interval in days from the onset to the first negative was 17, and from the first to the third negative was 24 days. One case was outstanding in persistency of positive stools.

Investigation showed evidence of spread in some cases by direct contact between households. In all, 317 home visits were made by the staff of the Health Department. The General Practitioners of the district treated both patients and positive contacts and co-operated whole-heartedly in dealing with the outbreak, which might have become much more widespread if stringent precautions had not been taken. One further case occurred in November.

In January an outbreak of suspected food poisoning affecting 36 children and six adults occurred in the infants' department of one of the schools. Symptoms occurred some 12 to 24 hours after a school dinner had been eaten but, unfortunately, it was not possible to obtain samples of the food.

Extensive investigations were made and some minor improvements suggested in connection with the school meals service. One case of Sonne dysentery was discovered.

During August and September there were several cases of food poisoning in the district. Seven cases, subsequently proved to be due to salmonella typhi-murium, occurred in three households. One patient was seriously ill but made a good recovery in hospital. The other patients had mild attacks and were satisfactorily treated at home. Bacteriological examination of a suspected sample of food proved negative. All contacts were kept under surveillance until clear.

In August, a different type of food poisoning affected a household of six adults. The illness was explosive in type and occurred 8 to 12 hours after eating meals of tongue which had been conveyed from the south in hand luggage.

On bacteriological examination of the remains of the tongue it was found to be teeming with Staphylococci. All members of the household made a good recovery.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation is carried out at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres (children 0-5 years), at the schools (children 5-15 years), and by the General Practitioners of the district. Special attention is given to reinforcing injections at suitable intervals.

At 31st December, 1950, 84 per cent. of the total child population had been immunised at some time during their life.

The percentage of immunised children under 5 years of age showed an increase to 62 in 1950 from 59 in 1949.

The percentage of immunised children, 5 to 15 years, remained at 98 in both years.

There is a distinct danger that the immense reduction in the incidence and mortality of this disease, which has really been phenomenal, will make parents much less alive to the risk of the disease.

The Ministry of Health's aim is that at least 75 per cent. of babies should be immunised before the end of the first year of life. At present this is not being attained, and while the response of parents to immunisation is generally very good indeed, a few are inclined to put it off until the child nears or reaches school age, forgetting the risk to which the child is being exposed during the early years.

During a period of exceptional local prevalence of poliomyelitis, injections would temporarily be suspended, but this has not been at all necessary up to date.

Figures given by the Ministry of Health in March, 1951, in regard to the incidence and deaths from diphtheria in the country generally during the last 10 years, are outstanding and from a point of interest are quoted below :—

	DEATHS	CASES	
		Original uncorrected	Corrected
1940.....	2,480	46,281	—
1944.....	934	29,949	23,152
1949 (Provisional)....	85	4,971	1,897

One can imagine only a little of the death and suffering which has been avoided by 10 years of patient progress and co-operation in immunisation by all concerned, apart from the substantial saving in hospital costs and personnel.

It is hoped that by continued effort this achievement will be sustained and even improved upon.

Number of Children who Completed a Full Course of Primary Immunisation in the Authority's Area during the Year, 1950.			Total Number of children who were given a Secondary or Reinforcing Injection.
Age at date of Final Injection.			
Under 5.	5—15.	Total.	
311	15	326	218

WHOOPING COUGH PROPHYLAXIS.

Appended is the number of children who completed a course of inoculation with pertussis vaccines (including vaccines combined with diphtheria prophylactic) during the year ending 31st December, 1950.

Age at date of final injection			
Under 1 year	1—4 years	5—14 years	Total
30 (1)	65 (80)	— (2)	95 (83)

(1949 figures are shown in brackets)

Injections are given at the parents' request by the General Practitioners of the district and at the Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.

VACCINATION AGAINST SMALLPOX.

During 1950, 81 primary vaccinations and 27 re-vaccinations were done by general practitioners, compared with 25 primary vaccinations and one re-vaccination in 1949 and 18 primary vaccinations and one re-vaccination in 1948.

GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES.

AMBULANCE SERVICE.

This service, now under the control of the Northumberland County Council, has a station at Newburn which covers not only the Urban District but the adjacent parts of the South Area and works in conjunction with the Gosforth, Prudhoe, and Ponteland Stations. There are six drivers and a driver-in-charge.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

This service is controlled by the Northumberland County Council through the South Area Health Administration. A total of 425 cases were served during 1950 in the South Area, 125 of which were resident in Newburn Urban District. These 125 cases included :—

- 47 illness.
- 27 aged and infirm people.
- 19 confinements.
 - 4 ante-natal.
 - 11 post-natal.
- 8 following operation and discharge from hospital.
- 1 blind person.
- 2 paralysis.
- 1 mental disease.
- 5 accident.

HOSPITALS.

There is one hospital in the district, the Lemington Hospital, which admits aged chronic patients. The hospital is controlled by the Regional Hospital Board.

HOME NURSING AND MIDWIFERY.

This service is administered by the Northumberland County Council. Five nurse/midwives are resident in the district, two at Throckley, two at Lemington, and one at Westerhope.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

This service is now administered by the Northumberland County Council. There are four Maternity and Child Welfare Centres in the district, one at Throckley, one at Lemington, one at West Denton, and one at Westerhope. There are regular sessions for babies and children, expectant mothers, and dental treatment.

HOUSING.

At the end of 1950 there were 1,248 applicants for Council houses, 655 sub-tenants, 469 tenants, and 124 aged persons.

During the year 128 houses had been built by this Council and eight privately. The total number of houses built by the Council since 1945 to December, 1950, was 656.

Eight applicants with a case history of tuberculosis were rehoused in 1950.

In spite of good progress made by the Council in building new houses during the last few years, the housing problem still remains acute.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Burial or Cremation of the Dead—Section 50.—There were two burials under Section 50 of the above Act.

Removal to Suitable Premises of Persons in need of Care and Attention—Section 47.—No statutory action was necessary under this section. One case was admitted voluntarily to a suitable institution.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE AREA.

The details under this section have been compiled by Mr. Corney, Senior Sanitary Inspector.

I wish to thank the Council, Health Committee, Clerk of the Council, Mr. Corney, and staff of the Health Department for their valuable help and co-operation throughout the year.

I am, Madam Chairman, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

M. HOPPER, M.B., B.S., B.Hy., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

Statistical Summary and Social Conditions

Particulars of District.

Area (in acres)	4,649
Registrar General's estimated population	21,720
Number of inhabited houses, according to rate books	6,359
Sum represented by Penny Rate	£444
Rateable Value	£113,423

Extracts from Vital Statistics.

	MALES	FEMALES	TOTAL
Live Births (legitimate)	192	184	376
" " (illegitimate)	8	6	14
Still Births	4	4	8
Deaths	153	129	282
Birth Rate per 1,000 population ....	....	....	17·9
Still Births per 1,000 population ....	....	....	0·35
Death Rate per 1,000 population ....	....	....	12·9

Deaths from Puerperal Causes.

There were no deaths from Puerperal Causes.

Death Rate of Infants under 1 year.

All infants per 1,000 live births	48·7
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	48·7
Illegitimate infants	Nil.

Deaths.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	45
" " Measles (all ages)	—
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	—
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	3

Causes of Death in the Newburn Area, 1950.

	Males	Females	Total
ALL CAUSES	153	129	282
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	5	4	9
2. Tuberculosis, other	1	..	1
3. Syphilitic disease	1	..	1
4. Diphtheria .. .. .	..	..	..
5. Whooping Cough .. .. .	..	..	..
6. Meningococcal infections .. .. .	..	..	..
7. Acute Poliomyelitis .. .. .	..	..	..
8. Measles .. .. .	..	..	..
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases .. .. .	..	1	1
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	5	11
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	6	..	6
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast .. .. .	..	8	8
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. .. .	..	..	..
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	11	9	20
15. Leukæmia, aleukæmia .. .. .	..	..	..
16. Diabetes .. .. .	..	2	2
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	16	17	33
18. Coronary disease, angina	25	16	41
19. Hypertension with heart disease	4	4	8
20. Other heart disease	16	24	40
21. Other circulatory disease	4	4	8
22. Influenza	3	2	5
23. Pneumonia	6	6	12
24. Bronchitis	10	4	14
25. Other diseases of respiratory system .. .. .	..	..	..
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. .. .	..	..	..
27. Gastritis, enteritis, and diarrhoea	4	3	7
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	..	3
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	4	..	4
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. .. .	..	..	..
31. Congenital malformations	1	..	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	18	16	34
33. Motor vehicle accidents	2	..	2
34. All other accidents	7	1	8
35. Suicide .. .. .	..	3	3
36. Homicide and operations of war .. .. .	..	..	..

BIRTH AND DEATH RATE.

Year	BIRTHS			DEATHS	
	Newborn	England and Wales		Newborn	England and Wales
1928.....	19.41	—	.....	11.78	—
1929.....	15.58	16.9	.....	10.96	13.4
1930.....	16.91	16.9	.....	10.57	11.4
1931.....	16.78	16.4	.....	12.17	12.3
1932.....	15.48	15.9	.....	11.44	12.0
1933.....	16.92	15.0	.....	12.96	12.3
1934.....	15.03	15.4	.....	12.85	11.8
1935.....	17.69	15.3	.....	10.24	12.1
1936.....	16.20	15.4	.....	11.27	12.1
1937.....	15.83	15.5	.....	10.46	12.4
1938.....	17.19	15.7	.....	11.56	11.6
1939.....	16.75	15.5	.....	12.46	12.1
1940.....	15.27	15.1	.....	12.24	14.3
1941.....	17.22	15.7	.....	14.24	11.6
1942.....	20.07	16.3	.....	12.27	11.6
1943.....	19.85	17.0	.....	12.5	12.1
1944.....	21.29	18.1	.....	10.46	11.6
1945.....	19.69	16.5	.....	12.83	11.4
1946.....	21.14	19.6	.....	11.43	11.5
1947.....	23.27	21.0	.....	10.9	12.0
1948.....	19.62	18.3	.....	11.2	10.8
1949.....	18.11	16.7	.....	11.32	11.7
1950.....	17.9	15.8	.....	12.9	11.6

INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

Year	Newborn		England and Wales	
1938	57.0	53.0
1939	77.84	50.0
1940	42.48	55.0
1941	90.6	59.0
1942	71.61	49.0
1943	49.84	49.0
1944	56.51	46.0
1945	48.52	46.0
1946	53.63	43.0
1947	43.48	41.0
1948	28.64	34.0
1949	30.8	32.0
1950	48.7	29.8

INFANT MORTALITY, 1950.—19 DEATHS.

Neo-natal Deaths :

Prematurity	....	....	....	....	....	5
Pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	1
Cardiac failure	....	....	....	....	....	5
Immaturity	....	....	....	....	....	1
Cerebral hæmorrhage	....	....	....	....	....	1—13
Gastro enteritis	....	....	....	....	....	1
Gastro enteritis and prematurity	....	....	....	....	....	1
Gastro enteritis and broncho-pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	1
Infantile convulsions, gastro enteritis, and prematurity	....	....	....	....	....	1
Inhaling vomit and suffocation	....	....	....	....	....	1
Peripheral circulatory failure and broncho-pneumonia	....	....	....	....	....	1— 6
TOTAL	....	....	....	....	....	19

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE.

Appended is a summary of Bacteriological Reports received from the Public Health Laboratory Service, Newcastle General Hospital, on specimens submitted by local medical practitioners and by the Health Department.

			POSITIVE	NEGATIVE
Urine for Tuberculosis	....	....	—	3
Sputum for Tuberculosis	....	....	—	25
Stool specimens for Sonne Dysentery..			97	273
Throat swabs for Vincent's Angina	....		—	1
Throat swabs for Diphtheria	....		—	19
Throat swabs for Hæmolytic Streptococci	....	....	5	15
Stool specimens for Salmonella organisms	....	....	16	38
Stool specimens for Entamœba histolytica	....	....	—	3
Urine for Ziehl Neelsen cocci	....		1	—
Throat swab for Ziehl Neelsen acid fast bacilli	....	....	—	1
Nasal swab for Staphylococci	....		—	2
Luncheon meat—Cl. Welchii	....		1	—
Boiled ham	....	....	—	1
Sweet mincemeat	....	....	—	1
Tinned pork for Staph. Aureus	....		—	1
Cooked tongue for Staph. Aureus	....		1	—
Corned beef for food poisoning organisms	....	....	—	1
Dried milk for pathogens	....	....	—	1

FOOD POISONING RETURN, 1950.

Outbreaks due to identified agents :

Total outbreaks	Nil	Total cases	Nil
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Outbreaks due to :

(a) Chemical poisons	Nil
(b) Salmonella organisms	Nil
(c) Staphylococci (including toxin)	Nil
(d) Cl. botulinum	....	....	....	....	Nil
(e) Other bacteria	Nil

Outbreaks of undiscovered cause :

Total outbreaks	Nil	Total cases	Nil
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Single cases :

AGENT IDENTIFIED		UNKNOWN CAUSE	TOTAL
Salmonella typhi-murium	—	7

INFECTIOUS DISEASE YEARLY RETURN, 1950
Number of Cases—Civilians.

DISEASE	0—		1—		3—		5—		10—		15—		25 and over		Age Un- known		TOTAL		Hos- pital	Deaths
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.				
Scarlet Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	2	1	1	4	3	7	..	1	..	..	..	6	13	..	..
Whooping Cough	6	5	6	9	15	11	8	7	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	35	33	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic) .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	..	..
Measles	1	4	29	21	29	35	46	28	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	106	89	..	..
Diphtheria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polioencephalitis .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..

DISEASE	0—		5—		15—		45—		65 and over		Age Un- known		TOTAL		Deaths	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Acute Pneumonia	1	4	4	3	6	10	10	7	4	9	..	1	25	34	..	..
Dysentery	7	4	5	3	..	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	12	11	..	..
Smallpox .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Enc. Lethargica .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Paratyphoid .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	1	..	..	2	2	..	..
Cerebro Spinal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ophthalmia Neonatorum .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malaria .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Fever .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Food Poisoning	2	..	..	..	1	2	1	1	..	..	..	..	4	3	..	..

DIPHTHERIA INCIDENCE AND DEATHS AND DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

YEAR	Number of Cases of Diphtheria	Number of Deaths	Number of Children Immunised (given for years 1935-43). Later years expressed as per- centage immunised of total child population
1935	28	....	32
1936	22	4	182
1937	20	....	209
1938	56	7	414
1939	5	....	422
1940	6	....	439
1941	43	3	1148
1942	49	2	2554
1943	104	3	3035
1944	118	6	65 per cent.
1945	21	2	80 per cent.
1946	11	....	82 per cent.
1947	9	....	83 per cent.
1948	2	....	83 per cent.
1949	....	....	84 per cent.
1950	....	....	84 per cent.

TUBERCULOSIS

AGE PERIODS			NEW CASES NOTIFIED				DEATHS			
			Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-pulmonary	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 year	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
1-5 years	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
5-15...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	1	...
15-25...	...	6	2	...	...	...	1	...	...
25-35...	...	6	7	...	1	2	1	...	...
35-45...	...	4	...	...	1	...	...	...	...
45-55...	...	2	2	...	...	2	1	...	...
55-65...	...	1	2	...	...	1	1	...	...
65 years and over	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Age Unknown	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
TOTAL ...	...	21	16	1	3	5	4	1	...
		37		4		9		1		
		41				10				

TABLE OF T.B. DEATHS (*for comparison*).

YEAR	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	TOTAL
1939....	15	2	17
1940....	11	5	16
1941....	13	4	17
1942....	12	2	14
1943....	14	3	17
1944....	12	1	13
1945....	7	4	11
1946....	12	4	16
1947....	15	2	17
1948....	12	2	14
1949....	9	1	10
1950....	9	1	10

TABLE OF T.B. NEW CASES (*for comparison*).

YEAR	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	
1939....	9	8	4	1	22
1940....	13	10	6	5	34
1941....	8	3	5	4	20
1942....	12	10	5	1	28
1943....	22	13	5	5	45
1944....	8	11	4	2	25
1945....	12	7	2	3	24
1946....	16	12	7	2	37
1947....	18	12	8	3	41
1948....	15	13	1	4	33
1949....	17	13	7	3	40
1950....	21	16	1	3	41

TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER, 1950

QUARTER ENDED	Number of Cases on Register at Commencement of Quarter		Number of Cases Notified for the First Time		Number of Cases Restored to Register		Number of Cases Removed from Register		Number of Cases Remaining on Register	
	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
March 31st, 1950—										
Males	101	70	3	....	....	....	2	....	102	70
Females	89	46	3	....	....	....	1	....	91	46
June 30th, 1950—										
Males	102	70	5	....	....	....	2	1	105	69
Females	91	46	7	....	....	....	....	....	98	46
September 30th, 1950—										
Males	105	69	9	1	....	....	51	56	63	14
Females	98	46	5	2	1	....	48	32	56	16
December 31st, 1950—										
Males	63	14	3	....	1	....	1	....	66	14
Females	56	16	3	....	....	....	1	....	58	16

N.B.—A number of cases were removed from the Register in the Third Quarter due to revision with Chest Clinic.

Annual Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector

For the Year ended December 31st, 1950

To Dr. Madge Hopper.

DEAR MADAM,

I have pleasure in submitting to you my Annual Report on the Sanitary circumstances of the district for the year ended 31st December, 1950.

HOUSING.

Regular inspection of older properties resulted in much repair work being carried out to prolong their life. While this is generally desirable, especially under present housing conditions, it is to be regretted that a fair proportion of material and labour has had to be used on property which is normally subject to demolition orders. I still feel there is room for some greater measure of priority to be granted in rehousing the occupants of premises in confirmed Clearance Areas.

OVERCROWDING.

Only a very small proportion of the cases of overcrowding are non-applicants for Council houses and these latter receive "points" according to the degree of their overcrowding which affords them some priority in being rehoused.

WATER SUPPLY.

Water is supplied to the district by the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company, and has at all times been satisfactory as regards quality and quantity.

All the houses in the area, with the exception of nine, have internal water supply, the occupants of these nine houses drawing their supply from stand-pipes.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Sewers commenced in 1949 on the Mount Pleasant, Throckley, housing estate were completed during the year. A considerable number of inspections were made in connection with defective house drainage and necessary repairs effected.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

At the end of the year there were 6,841 water closets, 23 pail closets, and 40 privies in use in the district.

PROVISION OF DUSTBINS.

Eighty-five dustbins were provided by owners of property to replace defective bins, and 14 dustbins were provided in place of ashpits whose use was discontinued. There is a growing tendency on the part of the property agents to resist compliance with notices requiring the provision of dustbins, and it is hoped the law governing this matter will be suitably amended before long.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL AND SALVAGE.

These services were transferred to the Health Department from the Surveyor's Department as a result of the Council's reorganising of departmental duties in May, 1950. Details for a complete year (financial or calendar) are not, therefore, available, and a general picture only is presented.

PERSONNEL.

There are three drivers, 12 bin-lifters (one acts as spare driver), three tip-end men, and two balers, all under the supervision of the general foreman.

VEHICLES.

There are three Karrier Bantam freighters of 7 cubic yards capacity, and each has a salvage trailer. One vehicle was purchased in 1943, one in 1944, and one in April, 1950, and it was necessary to fit reconditioned engines to both of the older vehicles during the year.

COLLECTION DISTRICTS.

One freighter collects in Lemington area, including South-West Denton and part of Newburn, the second collects in Westerhope area, including West Denton, Blucher, Walbottle, and North Walbottle, and the third collects in the Throckley area plus most of Newburn. As far as possible each freighter collects a similar number of bins. The whole district has a weekly collection with a twice-weekly collection from colliery houses.

DISPOSAL.

There are three tips in operation at Jingling Gate, Westerhope ; Blucher Quarry ; and Riverside, Newburn, respectively. Facilities are granted to the Castle Ward Rural District Council to dispose of some of their refuse on the Westerhope Tip.

SALVAGE.

Collection is effected by the use of trailers attached to the freighters, and appears to work satisfactorily. The public remain "salvage-conscious" to a certain degree but there is room for much improvement. Far too much paper still finds its way into the dustbin. The use of publicity material supplied by Messrs. Thames Board Mills Ltd., and the introduction of a bonus scheme for the refuse collecting personnel has helped to raise the tonnage of salvage dealt with.

STATISTICS.

Number of premises from which refuse is collected....	6,640
Average number of bins emptied per week	7,695
Average number of loads per week	78
Estimated weight of refuse disposed of per year	8,110 tons
Total mileage of freighters per year	20,800

FOOD PREMISES.

Inspection of food handling premises has again shown that the standard of hygiene is generally satisfactory. Advice and persuasion have been successful in effecting improvements in the way of provision of non-absorbent, easily-cleaned materials.

The Ministry of Food Model By-laws were adopted by the Council and became operative in July, 1950. Their implementation will result in a further advance in the standard of hygiene achieved in the food handling trades.

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

During the year our Factories Register was compared with that of H.M. Factories Inspector, Newcastle, and one or two discrepancies rectified. Inspections of factories showed that reasonable standards were maintained, and it was necessary to serve only eight notices in respect of defects.

INNS, PLACES OF REFRESHMENTS, &c.

All premises under the above heading were inspected during the year and notice served in one instance to provide extra sanitary accommodation was complied with.

MILK SAMPLING.

Since the transfer to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries of the control of milk production, sampling has been restricted to retailers' milk.

It is pleasing to note that all samples taken showed the absence of tubercle bacilli.

RODENT CONTROL.

Two sewer maintenance treatments were carried out, together with 60 surface treatments. The sewers were found to be virtually clear of rats and all the surface treatments were of a minor character except at one tip where it was necessary to use cyanide gas, which proved effective.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

A considerable amount of work was carried out in connection with cases of dysentery and food poisoning, no less than 392 visits being made investigating the cases and collecting and delivering stool specimens.

I wish to express my thanks to Mr. Hatton and Mrs. Pigg, members of the Council, and officials for their assistance during the year.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN CORNEY,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF DISTRICT.

Number and Nature of Inspections :

	VISITS					
Housing	278
Overcrowding	2
Re-visits	814
Complaints	95
Miscellaneous	153
Infectious Disease....	508
Meat inspection	14
Food and Drugs Act	158
Shops Act	36
Factories Act	72
Dairies	20
Milk samples	13
Drainage	76
Insanitary premises	2
Keeping of animals	26
Nuisances	12
Rodent control	13
Sanitary accommodation	24
Disinfestation	18
Moveable dwellings	5
Offensive accumulation	17
Rooms disinfected	77
						<hr/> 2,433
Refuse collection and disposal	118
Salvage	41
						<hr/> <hr/> 2,592

Defects Remedied :

W.C. apparatus overhauled	....	....	....	42
Drains cleared and repaired	....	....	....	24
Waste pipes repaired	....	....	....	22
Eaves gutters and rain-water pipes renewed and repaired	....	....	....	48
Doors repaired	....	....	....	80
Windows overhauled	....	....	....	45
Walls secured and repointed	....	....	....	94
Ceiling plaster and wall plaster repaired	....			69
Dustbins provided	....	....	....	99
Yard surface repaired	....	....	....	17
Floors and skirting repaired	....	....	....	32
Dampness remedied	....	....	....	22
Roofs overhauled	....	....	....	101
Burst water supply pipes repaired	....	....		12
Kitchen range overhauled	....	....	....	14
Internal water supply provided	....	....		4
Chimney stacks secured	....	....	....	8
Premises cleansed	....	....	....	1
Gulley grates provided	....	....	....	3
Set-pot repaired	....	....	....	4
Handrail fixed	....	....	....	14
Taps repaired	....	....	....	3
Nuisance remedied	....	....	....	1
Food store repaired	....	....	....	2
Cesspool overhauled	....	....	....	1

Statutory Notices served :

Section 39, Public Health Act, 1936	6
„ 45, „ „ „ „	8
„ 56, „ „ „ „	4
„ 75, „ „ „ „	1
„ 93, „ „ „ „	18

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SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT: YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31st, 1950
(Sanitary Officers' (Outside London) Regulations, 1935)

	Number of Inspections during Year	Number of Defects or Contraventions of By-laws	Number of Informal Notices Served	Defects Remedied by Informal Action	Number of Statutory Notices Served	Defects Remedied after Statutory Notice	Legal Proceedings
HOUSING—							
Structural Defects	575	457	110	297	18	49	....
Defective Food Store	52	13	8	12	....	....	....
Dampness	99	28	21	21	5	5	....
Overcrowding	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Insufficient	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
WATER SUPPLY	65	22	10	14	1	....	....
Unsatisfactory	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Insufficient	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Defective	340	131	67	101	11	17	....
Insufficient	4	3	3	3	....	....	....
SANITARY	347	134	69	98	12	14	....
CONVENIENCES	158	4	4	3	....	....	....
Food Premises	36	2	1	2	....	....	....
Shops Act	20	....	....	....	....	....	....
Dairies	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Slaughterhouses	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Tents, Vans, &c.	5	1	1	1	....	....	....
Offensive Trades	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Factories and Workplaces	70	8	8	7	....	....	....
Keeping of Animals	25	6	6	6	....	....	....
Insanitary Ashpits and Receptacles	271	128	114	97	2	2	....
Offensive Accumulations	17	3	3	3	....	....	....
Smoke Nuisances	8	1	1	1	....	....	....
TOTAL	2,092	941	426	666	49	87	....

HOUSING.

TABULAR STATEMENT FOR 1950.

HOUSES COMPLETED DURING THE YEAR	With State Assistance	Unaided	TOTAL
(a) By Local Authority—			
Permanent 	128	....	128
Temporary .... ....	....	....	....
(b) By other Bodies or Persons—			
Permanent .... ....	....	8	8
Temporary .... ....	....	....	....

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR :

- (1) Tctal number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) 278
- (2) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 13
- (3) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 164

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by Local Authority or its officers 137

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS :

- (a) *Proceedings under Sections 9, 10, and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :*
 - (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs —
 - (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—
 - (a) By owners —.... } —
 - (b) By Local Authority in default of owners.... —.... }

(b) *Proceedings under Public Health Acts :*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	....	....	....	....	....	....	18
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—							
(a) By owners	....	....	....	....	....	18....	} 18
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners....						—....	

(c) *Proceedings under Sections 11 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 .*

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	....	....	....	—
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	....	....	....	6
(3) Number of dwelling houses closed but not demolished (Housing Act, 1949, Sec. 3)	....	....		7

(d) *Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :*

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	....	....	....	....	....	....	—
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	....	....	....	....	....	....	—

4. NUMBER OF HOUSES PERMANENTLY DISCONTINUED AS DWELLINGS AND NOT INCLUDED ABOVE

....

HOUSING ACT, 1949 (Sec. 20).

(a) Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been received	....	....	1
(b) Number of separate dwelling houses in respect of which applications for grant have been approved	....	....	—

SUMMARY OF WORK EFFECTED.

	By Informal Action	By Statutory Action	TOTAL
<i>Sanitary Conveniences :</i>			
Privies and privy ashpits abolished..	....	....	....
Privies and privy ashpits repaired..	....	....	....
Pail closets abolished .....	....	....	....
Water closets provided	2	....	2
Number of above for which grant was given, P.H.A., 1936, S. 47..	....	....	....
Sanitary bins provided	136	....	136
Sanitary bins renewed	97	2	99
<i>Drainage :</i>			
New drains constructed	136	....	136
Drains repaired or reconstructed....	51	6	57
Additional gullies provided	272	....	272
Old gullies replaced	3	1	4
Scullery sinks provided	137	....	137
Scullery waste pipes repaired	12	1	13
Scullery waste pipes trapped	5	....	5
Yards repaired or reconstructed	220	3	223
			Number of Houses
<i>Water Supply :</i>			
Sources closed or discontinued .....	....	13	13
New service provided—			
(a) By Local Authority .....	....	128	128
(b) By Private Owner .....	....	8	8
Number of dwelling houses supplied by—			
(a) Internal Tap .....	....	....	6,350
(b) Stand-pipe .....	....	....	9

FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 AND 1948.

PART 1 OF THE ACT.

1. *INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to Health.*—

PREMISES	Number on Register.	NUMBER OF		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by L.A. ..	2	8	..	..
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the L.A. ..	45	59	8	..
				..
TOTAL	47	67	8	..

2. *Cases in which DEFECTS were found.*—

PARTICULARS	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness (S.1.) .. .. .	..	..
Overcrowding (S.2.) .. .. .	..	..
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.) .. .. .	..	..
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) .. .. .	..	..
Ineffective Drainage of Floors (S.6.) .. .. .	..	..
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)—		
(a) Insufficient .. .. .	..	..
(b) Unsuitable or Defective	8	7
(c) Not Separate for Sexes .. .. .	..	..
Other Offences against the Act (not including Offences relating to Outwork) .. .. .	..	..
TOTAL	8	7

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

OUTWORK	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sect. 110(L) (c)
Brass and Brass Articles	1
Stuffed Toys	1
Textile Weaving	3
TOTAL	5

LIST OF BY-LAWS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

DATE OF ADOPTION			NAME OF BY-LAW
20th August, 1928	....	....	Nuisances.
12th October, 1928	....	....	Slaughterhouses.
3rd April, 1935	....	....	Offensive Trades— Rag and Bone Dealers.
4th April, 1939	....	....	Building.
3rd December, 1947	....	....	Cemetery.
7th July, 1950	....	....	Clean Food.

FOOD INSPECTION.

UNSOUND FOOD				SURRENDERED
Beef (Home Killed)	....	....	....	24 stones
Beef (Imported)	....	....	....	8 stones
Fish	....	....	....	56 lb.
Fruit	....	....	....	209 lb.
Canned Goods	....	....	....	159 tins
Bacon	...	....	....	45½ lb.
Cheese	....	....	....	7½ lb.
Sausage	....	....	....	11 lb.
Ham	....	....	....	8½ lb.
Cake Mixture	....	....	....	7 lb.
Vinegar	....	....	....	6 gallons

MILK REGULATIONS, 1949.

Number of Registered Dairies	....	....	8
Number of Registered Distributors	....	....	25

ICE CREAM PREMISES.

Number on Register at commencement of year	..	24
Number on Register at end of year	....	32

SLAUGHTERHOUSES.

Number re-registered during year	4
----------------------------------	------	---

MILK SAMPLES.

The following statement shows the number and result of examinations carried out :—

Methylene Blue Reduction Test :

Of the 6 samples produced in the area, 4 or 66 per cent. were satisfactory.

Of the 7 samples produced out of the area, 100 per cent. were satisfactory.

Of the 13 samples produced, 11 or 84 per cent. were satisfactory.

Tubercle Bacilli :

Seven samples were submitted for examination for the presence of B. Tubercle, all were found to be satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL.

Sewers :

	First	Second
Number of manholes bated	33	24
Number of manholes showing pre-bait take	3	2
Number of manholes showing complete pre-bait take	2	2
Number of manholes test-baited in conjunction with above and not included	147	84

Surface :

Council Property and Refuse Tips—

1,910 Baits (including Poison Baits).
320 Poison Baits.
144 Bodies found.

Private and Business Premises—

2,028 Baits (including Poison Baits).
389 Poison Baits.
195 Bodies found.

